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AMBASSADOR SAYS ISRAEL SEEKS QUID PRO QUO FOR WITHDRAWAL

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(TEXT) ON THE EVE OF DR KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL OUR AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON, SIMHA DINITZ, ARRIVED HERE TODAY. HE SAID THAT DR KISSINGER WILL REMAIN IN ISRAEL UNTIL WEDNESDAY WHEN HE WILL LEAVE FOR CAIRO AND WILL RETURN TO ISRAEL ON THURSDAY FOR FURTHER TALKS.

(RECORDING BEGINS) (QUESTION) MR DINITZ, IN VIEW OF HIS VISIT, ARE THERE COMMON POINTS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT THAT DR KISSINGER WOULD HOPE TO SEE?

(ANSWER) I THINK THAT IT IS STILL PREMATURE AT THIS STAGE
TO SAY WHETHER THERE ARE COMMON POINTS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PERHAPS
ONE POINT WHICH IS IMPORTANT. THIS IS EGYPT'S WISH OR READINESS—
AS FAR AS WE CAN DISCERN—TO ENTER INTO ANOTHER ARRANGEMENT.
BEYOND THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, NEITHER WE NOR THE
AMERICANS HAVE ANY INFORMATION FROM EGYPT WHICH MIGHT ENABLE
US TO SEE WHETHER THERE IS INDEED A COMMON DENOMINATOR OR COMMON
POINTS IN THE STANDS OF THE TWO SIDES.

(QUESTION) DOES ISRAEL HAVE ANY WELL DEFINED LINE PREPARED FOR DR KISSINGER'S VISIT?

(ANSWER) I ASSUME THAT OUR LINE IS THAT WE WANT AND ASPIRE TO REACH AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT WITH EGYPT. I THINK THAT OUR LINE HAS BEEN EXPLAINED SEVERAL TIMES IN BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND BY ME IN TALKS IN WASHINGTON. WE ARE PREPARED FOR A FURTHER WITHDRAWAL, BUT WE INSIST ON RECEIVING AN ADEQUATE EGYPTIAN QUID PRO QUO FOR SUCH A WITHDRAWAL. OBVIOUSLY WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO MAKE A ONE-SIDED CONCESSION OR A MOVE INCOMPATIBLE WITH OUR INTERESTS. I WISH TO ADD ANOTHER WORD ON THIS MATTER, IF WE ARE FACING THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ADEQUATE AND SUITABLE--AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED--AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT, THERE IS NO NEED TO PUT PRESSURE ON US TO DO SO. WE ARE INTERESTED IN THAT. IF WE FACE THE ALTERNATIVE OF AN AGREEMENT WHICH IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO US, NO PRESSURE IN THE WORLD WILL FORCE US TO DO SOMETHING WHICH IS AGAINST OUR WILL.

7 FEB 2229Z DBI/MA